

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A communication protocol comprising the steps of:
 - a) a sending application resident on a first computer system selecting a transport mechanism and passing data having a first data type to a first utility program resident on said first computer system;
 - b) said first utility program, adding a token, a first data type-category type identifier corresponding to said first data type, and a first data type identifier corresponding to said first data type, to said data to form an information packet and then, transparently to said sending application, using said transport mechanism to transmit said information packet to a second computer system;
 - c) a second utility program, resident on said second computer system, locating said first data type identifier and said first category type identifier in said information packet using said token;
 - d) said second utility program indexing a relevant one of a plurality of category types corresponding to said first category type identifier of an application registry with said first data type identifier to determine a destination application that is associated with said first data type identifier, ~~wherein said application registry comprises identifiers categorized into a plurality of~~

~~different data type categories and wherein said data type category identifier of said information packet identifies said relevant category; and~~

e) supplying said data packet to said destination application.

2. (Original) A communication protocol as described in Claim 1 wherein said first computer system and said second computer system are portable computer systems.

3. (Original) A communication protocol as described in Claim 1 wherein said first computer system and said second computer system are hand-held portable computer systems.

4. (Original) A communication protocol as described in Claim 1 wherein said transport mechanism is substantially compliant with the Short Messaging Service (SMS) standard.

5. (Original) A communication protocol as described in Claim 1 wherein said transport mechanism includes the use of a GSM wireless communication device.

6. (Currently Amended) A communication protocol as described in Claim 1 wherein said plurality of ~~data category types~~ type categories comprise: an Extension category; a MIME type category and an Application Creator category.

7. (Currently Amended) A communication protocol as described in Claim 6 wherein said ~~data type~~ first category type identifier is a numeric value.

8. (Currently Amended) A transport-independent communication protocol between computer systems comprising the steps of:

a) a sending application resident on a first computer system selecting a wireless transport mechanism and passing data having a given data type to a first utility program resident on said first computer system;

b) said first utility program, adding a token, a ~~data type~~ first category type identifier corresponding to said given data type, and a first data type identifier corresponding to said given data type, to said data to form an information packet and then, transparently to said sending application, using said wireless transport mechanism to transmit said information packet to a second computer system;

c) a second utility program, resident on said second portable computer system, locating said first data type identifier and said first category type identifier in said information packet using said token;

d) said second utility program indexing a relevant one of a plurality of category types corresponding to said first category type identifier of said application registry with said first data type identifier to determine a destination application that is associated with said first data type identifier; ~~wherein said application registry comprises identifiers of a plurality of different data type categories comprising: an Extension category; a MIME type category and an Application~~

~~Creator category, and wherein said data type category identifier of said information packet identifies said relevant category; and~~

e) supplying said data packet to said destination application.

9. (Original) A communication protocol as described in Claim 8 wherein said first portable computer system and said second portable computer system are hand-held portable computer systems.

10. (Original) A communication protocol as described in Claim 8 wherein said wireless transport mechanism is substantially compliant with the Short Messaging Service (SMS) standard.

11. (Original) A communication protocol as described in Claim 10 wherein said wireless transport mechanism includes the use of a GSM wireless communication device.

12. (Currently Amended) A communication protocol as described in Claim ~~6~~8 wherein ~~said data type category identifier~~ each of a plurality of category type identifiers is a unique numeric value.

13. (Currently Amended) A communication system comprising:

a sending application resident on a first computer system for selecting a transport mechanism and passing data having a first data type to a first utility program resident on said first computer system;

said first utility program for adding a token, a first data type category type identifier corresponding to said first data type, and a first data type identifier corresponding to said first data type, to said data to form an information packet and then for using said transport mechanism to transmit said information packet to a second computer system;

an application registry resident on said second computer system and comprising ~~identifiers of a plurality of different data type categories~~ a mapping of each of a plurality of data type identifiers to one of a plurality of applications that are registered for each of a plurality of data types, wherein said plurality of data types identifiers are organized by a plurality of category types; and

a second utility program, resident on said second computer system, for locating said first data type identifier and said first category type identifier in said information packet using said token and for indexing a relevant one of a plurality of category types corresponding to said first category type identifier of said application registry with said first data type identifier to determine a destination application that is associated with said first data type identifier, ~~wherein said data type category identifier of said information packet identifies said relevant category.~~

14. (Original) A communication system as described in Claim 13 wherein said first computer system and said second computer system are portable computer systems.

15. (Original) A communication system as described in Claim 13 wherein said first computer system and said second computer system are hand-held portable computer systems.

16. (Original) A communication system as described in Claim 13 wherein said transport mechanism is substantially compliant with the Short Messaging Service (SMS) standard.

17. (Original) A communication system as described in Claim 13 wherein said transport mechanism includes the use of a GSM wireless communication device.

18. (Original) A communication system as described in Claim 17 wherein said transport mechanism includes the use of a GSM wireless communication device.

19. (Currently Amended) A communication system as described in Claim 13 wherein said plurality of ~~data type categories~~ category types comprise: an Extension category; a MIME type category and an Application Creator category.

20. (Currently Amended) A communication system as described in Claim 19 wherein said ~~data type~~ first category type identifier is a numeric value.